THOMAS A. CONLEY '01

Biographical Sketch

Major Thomas A. Conley (Eng '01) is a senior pilot in the United States Air Force and currently serves in the District of Columbia Air National Guard. Tom is an Executive Airlift Pilot to the White House and Congress and is highly-decorated for his 12 years of service.

After commissioning with the Air Force ROTC, Tom graduated in 2001 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering and was the number one graduate in his Air Force pilot training class. He earned an MBA from The George Washington University and recently completed a Master of Public Administration at Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government.

Mr. Conley is also a Senior Advisor at the U.S. Department of State where he supports American public diplomacy by achieving U.S. foreign policy objectives. He currently holds one of the highest security clearances, was a national security analyst at The Pentagon, has White House staff experience, and was deployed during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

While at Penn State, Tom was the president of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and briefly played rugby. Originally from Chester County, PA, he and his wife Devon Delmonico (Bus '01) married in 2001 and have one son, Grant.

Tom volunteers with the Truman National Security Project and is the co-founder of the Public Service Pledge, an initiative which exemplifies his commitment to improving this generation of public sector leaders. The Conleys are lifetime members of the Penn State Alumni Association and perennial members of the Nittany Lion Club.

Position Statement

My years in the military taught me that you're only as good as your reputation. That was certainly the case in the Air Force, and it's especially true for a world-class institution like Penn State.

As your Trustee, my number one priority in the coming years will be to restore our University's integrity. For the last 10+ years I had the honor of being a pilot for our nation's First Lady, Speaker of the House, and 4-star Generals. So, I know what it takes to develop and maintain the highest levels of public trust.

On the Board, it means acting with empathy, with the highest respect for the people and the institution you serve. It also requires the courage to welcome public examination—something we have had plenty of lately! These things must not be compromised for short-term or special interests and I'm excited to bring this to Penn State's BoT.

Our nation's institutions need Penn State alumni to rebuild this set of core values. PSU can lead the way by improving our own credibility by electing public service leaders with unquestionable character and aptitude. Join me, as we walk worthy of those who came before us, and stand up for the welfare of those who will come after us.

With last year's election, we are on a path to repairing our reputation—let's continue the trend of electing proven leaders and dedicated alumni. Fellow Penn Staters, I would be proud to represent you on the Board.